GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3006
ANSWERED ON:22.12.2003
REVIEW OF TRANSGENIC CROP POLICY
SRINIVASULU KALAVA

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to review the transgenic crop policy of the country;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government has received some adverse reports on the performance of Bt. Cotton; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV)

(a) & (b): The Government of India is following a case by case policy for approval of transgenic crops, since the biosafety assessment depends on the agro-climatic conditions, local biodiversity and the type of genetic modification proposed. However, the Ministry of Agriculture has taken up the exercise of recommending streamlining of the procedure and protocols to be adopted while according approval for commercial cultivation of transgenic crops.

(c) & (d): According to Ministry of Environment and Forests, the nodal Ministry, no official adverse reports on the performance of Bt. Cotton for Kharif 2003 have been received.